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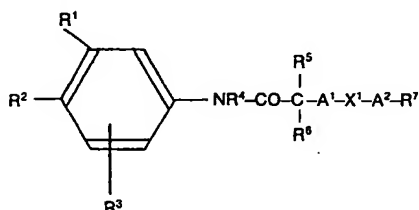
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⑤④ Amide derivatives.

⑤⑦ Acylanilides of the formula



X¹ and X², the same or different, each is oxygen, sulphur, sulphinyl, sulphonyl, imino or alkylimino;

R⁷ and R⁸, the same or different, each is alkyl, alkenyl, hydroxyalkyl, cycloalkyl, phenyl optionally substituted, naphthyl or heterocyclic optionally substituted;

and R⁸ is phenyl, naphthyl or heterocyclic as defined above for R⁷ or R⁸; processes for their manufacture and pharmaceutical compositions containing them. The acylanilides possess antiandrogenic activity.

wherein R¹ and R², the same or different, each is cyano, carbamoyl, nitro, halogeno, perfluoroalkyl or other defined substituents;

R³ is hydrogen or halogen;

R⁴ is hydrogen or alkyl, or is joined to R⁵;

R⁵ is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkoxy or acyloxy or is joined to R⁴;

R⁶ is alkyl or halogenoalkyl, or has the formula -A³-R⁸ or -A⁴-X²-A⁵-R⁸;

A¹ and A⁴, the same or different, each is alkylene;

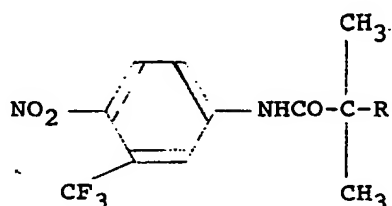
A², A³ and A⁵, the same or different, each is a direct link or alkylene;

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AMIDE DERIVATIVES

This invention relates to new amide derivatives and more particularly it relates to novel acylanilides which possess antiandrogenic properties.

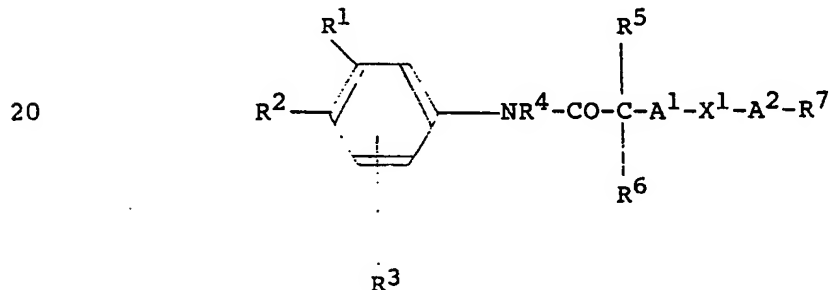
5 Many acylanilides are known which possess antiandrogenic activity. In particular, the compound of the formula:-



10 wherein R is hydrogen, which compound is known as FLUTAMIDE, is under development for use as an antiandrogen. It is believed that flutamide is oxidised in vivo to the corresponding compound wherein R is hydroxy.

15 Other acylanilides which possess antiandrogenic activity are known from European Specifications Nos 2309, 2892 and 40932, and from Japanese Specification No. 52-128329.

According to the present invention there is provided an acylanilide of the formula:-



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- wherein R^1 is cyano, carbamoyl, nitro, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo or hydrogen, or alkyl, alkoxy, alkanoyl, alkylthio, alkylsulphinyl, alkylsulphonyl, perfluoroalkyl, perfluoroalkylthio, perfluoroalkylsulphinyl or perfluoroalkylsulphonyl each of up to 4 carbon atoms, or phenylthio, phenylsulphinyl or phenylsulphonyl;
- 5 wherein R^2 is cyano, carbamoyl, nitro, fluoro, chloro, bromo or iodo, or alkanoyl, alkylthio, alkylsulphinyl, alkylsulphonyl, perfluoroalkyl, perfluoroalkylthio, perfluoroalkylsulphinyl or perfluoroalkylsulphonyl each of up to 4 carbon atoms, or phenylthio, phenylsulphinyl or phenylsulphonyl;
- 10 wherein R^3 is hydrogen or halogen;
- 15 wherein R^4 is hydrogen or alkyl of up to 4 carbon atoms, or is joined to R^5 as stated below;
- wherein R^5 is hydrogen, hydroxy or alkoxy or acyloxy each of up to 15 carbon atoms, or is joined to R^4 to form an oxycarbonyl group such that together with the
- 20 -N-CO-C- part of the molecule it forms an oxazolidinedione group;
- wherein R^6 is alkyl or halogenoalkyl of up to 4 carbon atoms, or has the formula $-A^3-R^8$ or $-A^4-X^2-A^5-R^9$;
- 25 wherein A^1 and A^4 , which may be the same or different, each is alkylene of up to 6 carbon atoms;
- wherein A^2 , A^3 and A^5 , which may be the same or different, each is a direct link or alkylene of up to 6 carbon atoms;
- 30 wherein X^1 and X^2 , which may be the same or different, each is oxygen, sulphur, sulphinyl (-SO-), sulphonyl (-SO₂-), imino (-NH-) or alkylimino (-NR¹⁰- wherein R^{10} is alkyl of up to 6 carbon atoms);

wherein R⁷ and R⁹, which may be the same or different, each is alkyl, alkenyl, hydroxyalkyl or cycloalkyl each of up to 6 carbon atoms, or R⁷ or R⁹ is phenyl which bears one, two or three substituents selected from hydrogen, halogen, nitro, carboxy, carbamoyl and cyano, and alkyl, alkoxy, alkanoyl, alkylthio, alkylsulphinyl, alkylsulphonyl, perfluoroalkyl, perfluoroalkylthio, perfluoroalkylsulphinyl, perfluoroalkylsulphonyl, alkoxy carbonyl and N-alkylcarbamoyl each of up to 4 carbon atoms, and phenyl, phenylthio, phenylsulphinyl and phenylsulphonyl; or R⁷ or R⁹ is naphthyl; or R⁷ or R⁹ is 5- or 6- membered saturated or unsaturated heterocyclic which contains one, two or three heteroatoms selected from oxygen, nitrogen and sulphur, which heterocyclic may be a single ring or may be fused to a benzo-ring, and which heterocyclic is unsubstituted or bears one or two halogen, cyano or amino, or alkyl, alkoxy, alkylthio, alkylsulphinyl or alkylsulphonyl each of up to 4 carbon atoms, or oxy or hydroxy substituents, or which if sufficiently saturated may bear one or two oxo substituents; and wherein R⁸ is phenyl, naphthyl or heterocyclic as defined above for R⁷ or R⁹.

It will be observed that the acylanilide derivative of the invention possesses an asymmetric carbon atom, namely the carbon atom which bears the substituents R⁵ and R⁶, and it can therefore exist in racemic and optically-active forms. It is to be understood that this invention encompasses the racemic form of the acylanilide derivative and any optically-active form which possesses antiandrogenic activity, it being a matter of common general knowledge how a racemic compound may be resolved into its optically-active forms and how any antiandrogenic activity present in any of these forms may be determined.

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A suitable value for R^1 , R^4 or R^{10} when it is alkyl, or for an alkyl substituent in R^7 , R^8 or R^9 when R^7 , R^8 or R^9 is phenyl or heterocyclic substituted by alkyl is, for example, methyl or ethyl.

A suitable value for R^1 when it is alkoxy, or for an alkoxy substituent in R^7 , R^8 or R^9 when R^7 , R^8 or R^9 is phenyl or heterocyclic substituted by alkoxy is, for example, methoxy or ethoxy.

A suitable value for R^1 or R^2 when it is alkanoyl, or for an alkanoyl substituent in R^7 , R^8 or R^9 when R^7 , R^8 or R^9 is phenyl substituted by alkanoyl is, for example, formyl or acetyl.

A suitable value for R^1 or R^2 when it is alkylthio, alkylsulphinyl, alkylsulphonyl, perfluoroalkyl, perfluoroalkylthio, perfluoroalkylsulphinyl or perfluoroalkylsulphonyl, or for such a substituent in R^7 , R^8 or R^9 when R^7 , R^8 or R^9 is phenyl or heterocyclic bearing such a substituent is, for example, methylthio, ethylthio, methylsulphinyl, methylsulphonyl, trifluoromethyl, pentafluoroethyl, trifluoromethylthio, trifluoromethylsulphinyl or trifluoromethylsulphonyl.

A suitable value for R^3 when it is halogen, or for a halogen substituent in R^7 , R^8 or R^9 when R^7 , R^8 or R^9 is phenyl or heterocyclic substituted by halogen, is fluoro, chloro, bromo or iodo.

R^3 is preferably hydrogen or chloro, especially hydrogen.

R^4 is preferably hydrogen.

A suitable value for an alkoxy carbonyl or N-alkyl carbamoyl substituent in R^7 , R^8 or R^9 when R^7 , R^8 or R^9 is phenyl bearing such a substituent is, for example, methoxycarbonyl, ethoxycarbonyl or N-methyl carbamoyl.

A suitable value for R^5 when it is alkoxy is, for example, methoxy, ethoxy, propyloxy, n-butyloxy or decyloxy.

5 A suitable value for R^5 when it is acyloxy is, for example, alkanoyloxy or aroyloxy each of up to 15 carbon atoms, for example acetoxy, propionyloxy, decanoyloxy, dodecanoyloxy or benzoyloxy.

R^5 is preferably hydroxy.

10 A suitable value for R^6 when it is alkyl or halogenoalkyl is, for example, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, fluoromethyl, difluoromethyl, trifluoromethyl, pentafluoroethyl, chloromethyl, dichloromethyl or trichloromethyl. R^6 is preferably methyl or trifluoromethyl, especially methyl.

15 A suitable value for A^1 , A^2 , A^3 , A^4 , or A^5 when it is alkylene is, for example, methylene, ethylene, ethylidene ($\text{CH}_3\text{CH}-$), trimethylene, tetramethylene, 1-methyl-

ethylene ($\text{-CH}(\text{CH}_3)\text{-CH}_2\text{-}$), 2-methylethylene ($\text{-CH}_2\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)\text{-}$) or

20 1,1,3-trimethylpropane-1,3-diyl ($\text{-C}(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{-CH}_2\text{CH-}$).

25 A suitable value for R^7 or R^9 when it is alkyl, alkenyl, hydroxyalkyl or cycloalkyl is, for example, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl, allyl, 2-methylprop-2-enyl, 2-hydroxyethyl, cyclopentyl or cyclohexyl.

30 A suitable value for R^7 , R^8 or R^9 when it is heterocyclic is, for example, furyl, thienyl, pyrrolyl, pyridyl, imidazolyl, thiazolyl, pyrimidinyl, thiadiazolyl, triazolyl, benzimidazolyl, benzothiazolyl, indolyl, benzothienyl, benzofuryl, quinolyl, isoquinolyl or 1,2-dihydro-2-oxoquinolyl.

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A preferred combination of values for R^1 and R^2 is as follows:-

R^1	R^2
trifluoromethyl	nitro
trifluoromethyl	cyano
chloro	chloro
chloro	nitro
chloro	cyano
cyano	cyano

5 A preferred acylanilide of the invention has the formula stated above wherein R^1 is cyano, nitro, trifluoromethyl, chloro, methyl or methoxy, R^2 is cyano, nitro, trifluoromethyl or chloro, R^3 and R^4 are both hydrogen, R^5 is hydroxy, R^6 is methyl or trifluoromethyl, A^1 is methylene, ethylene or
 10 ethylidene, X^1 is oxygen, sulphur, sulphinyl, sulphonyl, imino or methylimino, A^2 is a direct link or methylene and R^7 is alkyl, alkenyl, hydroxyalkyl or cycloalkyl each of up to 6 carbon atoms, or phenyl which is unsubstituted or which bears one fluoro,
 15 chloro, cyano, nitro, methoxy or methylthio substituent, or thienyl, imidazolyl, thiazolyl, benzothiazolyl, thiadiazolyl, pyridyl or pyrimidinyl which is unsubstituted or which bears one chloro, bromo or methyl substituent.

20 A particularly preferred acylanilide of the invention has the formula stated above wherein R^1 is trifluoromethyl, R^2 is cyano or nitro, R^3 and R^4 are both hydrogen, R^5 is hydroxy, R^6 is methyl, A^1 is methylene, X^1 is sulphur, sulphinyl or sulphonyl,

A² is a direct link and R⁷ is alkyl of up to 3 carbon atoms, especially ethyl, or is allyl, phenyl, p-fluorophenyl, thiazol-2-yl, 4-methylthiazol-2-yl, 5-methyl-1,3,4-thiadiazol-2-yl or 2-pyridyl.

5 Specific acylanilides of the invention are hereinafter described in the Examples.

 Particularly active compounds are 3-chloro-4-cyano-N-(3-ethylthio-2-hydroxy-2-methylpropionyl)-aniline;

10 3-chloro-4-cyano-N-(3-ethylsulphonyl-2-hydroxy-2-methylpropionyl)aniline;

 4-cyano-3-trifluoromethyl-N-(2-hydroxy-2-methyl-3-phenylsulphonylpropionyl)aniline;

15 4-cyano-3-trifluoromethyl-N-(3-ethylsulphonyl-2-hydroxy-2-methylpropionyl)aniline;

 4-nitro-3-trifluoromethyl-N-(2-hydroxy-3-phenylsulphonyl-2-methylpropionyl)aniline;

 4-nitro-3-trifluoromethyl-N-(3-ethylsulphonyl-2-hydroxy-2-methylpropionyl)aniline;

20 3-chloro-4-nitro-N-(2-hydroxy-3-phenylthio-2-methylpropionyl)aniline;

 4-nitro-3-trifluoromethyl-N-[2-hydroxy-2-methyl-3-(thiazol-2-ylthio)propionyl]aniline;

25 4-nitro-3-trifluoromethyl-N-[3-allylthio-2-hydroxy-2-methylpropionyl)aniline;

 4-nitro-3-trifluoromethyl-N-(3-p-fluorophenylthio-2-hydroxy-2-methylpropionyl)aniline;

 4-nitro-3-trifluoromethyl-N-[2-hydroxy-2-methyl-3-(pyrid-2-ylthio)propionyl]aniline;

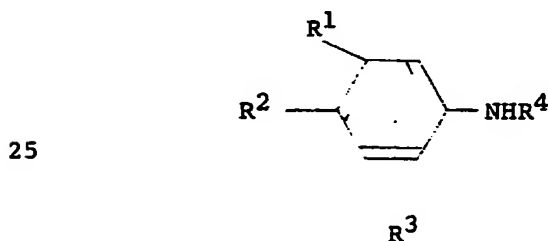
30 4-nitro-3-trifluoromethyl-N-[2-hydroxy-2-methyl-3-(5-methyl-1,3,4-thiadiazol-2-ylthio)propionyl]aniline;

 4-nitro-3-trifluoromethyl-N-[2-hydroxy-2-methyl-3-(4-methylthiazol-2-ylthio)propionyl]aniline;

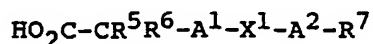
4-nitro-3-trifluoromethyl-N-[2-hydroxy-2-methyl-
3-(pyrid-2-ylsulphonyl)propionyl]aniline;
4-nitro-3-trifluoromethyl-N-(3-p-fluorophenylsulphonyl-
2-hydroxy-2-methylpropionyl)aniline;
4-cyano-3-trifluoromethyl-N-[2-hydroxy-2-methyl-3-
(thiazol-2-ylthio)propionyl]aniline;
4-cyano-3-trifluoromethyl-N-[2-hydroxy-2-methyl-
3-(pyrid-2-ylthio)propionyl]aniline;
10 4-cyano-3-trifluoromethyl-N-(2-hydroxy-2-methyl-3-
methylthiopropionyl)aniline;
4-cyano-3-trifluoromethyl-N-(3-p-fluorophenylthio-2-
hydroxy-2-methylpropionyl)aniline; and
4-cyano-3-trifluoromethyl-N-(3-p-fluorophenylsulphonyl-
2-hydroxy-2-methylpropionyl)aniline;
and of these the last-mentioned is especially
preferred.

The acylanilides of the invention may be
manufactured by any chemical process known to be
suitable for the manufacture of chemically-analogous
20 compounds.

One preferred process for the manufacture of an
acylanilide of the invention comprises the reaction of
an amine of the formula:-



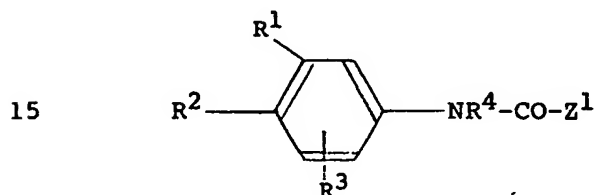
wherein R¹, R², R³ and R⁴ have the meanings
stated above, with an acid of the formula:-



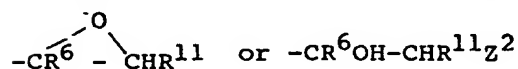
wherein R^5 , R^6 , R^7 , X^1 , A^1 and A^2 have the meanings stated above, or with a reactive derivative of said acid.

A suitable reactive derivative of an acid is, for example, an acid anhydride, or an acyl halide, for example an acyl chloride, or a lower alkyl ester of said acid, for example the methyl or ethyl ester. Preferably the reaction is carried out in N,N-dimethylacetamide solution using an acyl chloride (prepared from the acid and thionyl chloride) as reactant.

A second preferred process for the manufacture of an acylanilide of the invention wherein R^5 is hydroxy and X^1 is sulphur or alkylimino comprises the reaction of an epoxide of the formula:-



wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^3 and R^4 have the meanings stated above and wherein Z^1 has the formula



wherein R^6 has the meaning stated above, wherein Z^2 is a displaceable group and wherein R^{11} is such that $-CHR^{11}-$ is $-A^1-$ as stated above, with a thiol or amine of the formula:-

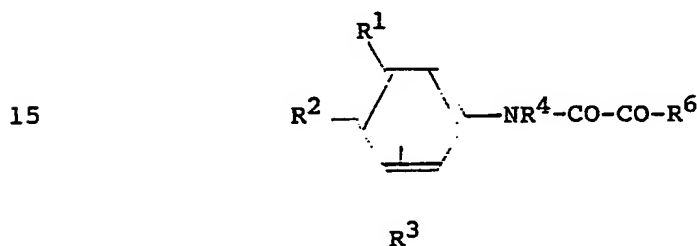


wherein R^7 , R^{10} and A^2 have the meanings stated above.

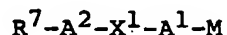
5 A suitable value for Z^2 is, for example, a halogeno or sulphonyloxy group, for example the chloro, bromo, iodo, methanesulphonyloxy or p-toluenesulphonyloxy group. The abovementioned reaction is preferably carried out in an inert diluent or solvent, for example tetrahydrofuran, and in the presence of a base, for example sodium hydride.

10 The epoxide used as starting material may be obtained by the epoxidation, for example with a peracid, of the corresponding unsaturated acylanilide.

A third preferred process for the manufacture of an acylanilide of the invention wherein R^5 is hydroxy comprises the reaction of a compound of the formula:-



wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 and R^6 have the meanings stated above, with an organometallic compound of the formula -

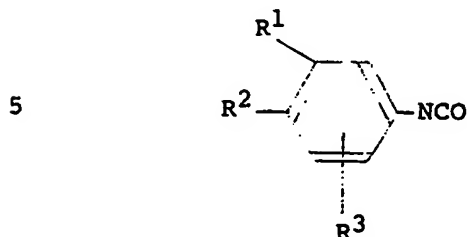


20 wherein A^1 , A^2 , R^7 and X^1 have the meanings stated above and M is a metal radical, for example the lithium radical.

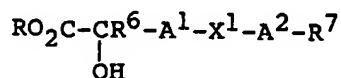
25 The last-mentioned reaction is preferably carried out in an inert solvent, for example diethyl ether or tetrahydrofuran, at a low temperature, for example at between -60°C . and -100°C .

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An acylanilide of the invention wherein R^4 and R^5 are joined together to form a carbonyloxy group, that is, an oxazolidinedione, may be prepared by the reaction of an isocyanate of the formula:-



wherein R^1 , R^2 and R^3 have the meanings stated above, with an ester of the formula:-



10 wherein R^6 , R^7 , X^1 , A^1 and A^2 have the meanings stated above, and wherein R is alkyl of up to 6 carbon atoms, for example methyl or ethyl. This reaction is preferably carried out in an organic solvent, for example diethyl ether, at laboratory temperature.

15 An acylanilide of the invention wherein R^5 is hydroxy may be prepared by the hydrolysis of the corresponding acylanilide wherein R^5 is acyloxy, and an acylanilide of the invention wherein R^5 is hydroxy and R^4 is hydrogen may be prepared by the hydrolysis
20 of the corresponding oxazolidinedione, which may be prepared as described in the preceding paragraph.

An acylanilide of the invention wherein R^4 is alkyl may be prepared by the alkylation of the corresponding acylanilide wherein R^4 is hydrogen.

An acylanilide of the invention wherein R^5 is acyloxy may be prepared by the acylation of the corresponding acylanilide wherein R^5 is hydroxy.

5 An oxazolidinedione of the invention, wherein R^4 and R^5 are joined together to form a carbonyloxy group, may be prepared by the reaction of the corresponding acylanilide wherein R^4 is hydrogen and R^5 is hydroxy with phosgene (COCl_2).

10 An acylanilide of the invention wherein X^1 or X^2 is sulphinyl or sulphonyl or wherein one or more of R^1 , R^2 and a substituent in the phenyl or heterocyclic group R^7 , R^8 or R^9 is alkylsulphinyl, perfluoroalkylsulphinyl or phenylsulphinyl, or is alkylsulphonyl, perfluoroalkylsulphonyl or
15 phenylsulphonyl, may be prepared by the oxidation of the corresponding acylanilide wherein X^1 or X^2 is sulphur or wherein one or more of R^1 , R^2 and a substituent in the phenyl or heterocyclic group R^7 , R^8 or R^9 is alkylthio, perfluoroalkylthio or
20 phenylthio, respectively. The oxidising agent and conditions used will determine whether a sulphinyl or a sulphonyl compound is obtained. Thus, oxidation with sodium metaperiodate in methanol solution at or below laboratory temperature will generally convert a thio
25 compound into the corresponding sulphinyl compound; and oxidation with a per-acid, for example m-chloroperbenzoic acid, in methylene chloride solution at or above laboratory temperature will generally convert a thio compound into the corresponding sulphonyl
30 compound.

A racemic acylanilide of the invention wherein R^5 is hydroxy may be separated into its optical isomers by forming an ester of the hydroxy group R^5 with an optically-active acid, for example (-)-
35 camphanic acid, separating the diastereoisomeric esters thus obtained, by fractional crystallisation or,

preferably, by flash-chromatography, and then hydrolysing each separate ester to the alcohol. Alternatively, an optically active acylanilide of the invention may be obtained by using any of the processes described above with an optically-active starting material.

As stated above, an acylanilide of the invention possesses antiandrogenic properties as demonstrated by its ability to decrease the weight of the seminal vesicles of a mature male rat when administered orally for 4 successive days. An acylanilide of the invention may therefore be used in the treatment of, for example, malignant or benign prostatic disease or of androgen dependent disease conditions, such as acne, hirsutism or seborrhoea, in warm-blooded vertebrates including man. It may also be used to improve ovulation in a domestic animal.

A preferred acylanilide of the invention is up to 10 times more active as an antiandrogen than the known, chemically-related antiandrogens flutamide and hydroxyflutamide. At a dose of an acylanilide of the invention which produces antiandrogenic activity in rats no symptoms of toxicity are apparent.

The acylanilide of the invention may be administered to a warm-blooded animal in the form of a pharmaceutical or veterinary composition which comprises the acylanilide in association with a pharmaceutically-acceptable diluent or carrier.

The composition may be in a form suitable for oral dosage, as a tablet, capsule, aqueous or oily solution or suspension or emulsion. It may alternatively be in the form of a sterile solution or suspension suitable for parenteral administration, or be in the form of an ointment or lotion for topical administration, or be in the form of a suppository for anal or vaginal administration.

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The composition may additionally contain one or more drugs selected from anti-oestrogens, for example tamoxifen; aromatase inhibitors, for example testolactone or aminoglutethamide; progestins, for example medroxyprogesterone acetate; inhibitors of gonadotrophin secretion, for example danazol; LH-RH-analogues, for example buserelin; cytotoxic agents, for example cyclophosphamide; antibiotics, for example penicillin or oxytetracyclin; and anti-inflammatory agents, for example, especially for topical use, fluocinolone acetonide.

The acylanilide of the invention will normally be administered to a warm-blooded animal at a dose of between 0.1 mg. and 125 mg. per kg. bodyweight.

The invention is illustrated but not limited by the following Examples:-

Example 1

Thionyl chloride (0.6 ml.) was added to a stirred solution of 2-hydroxy-2-methyl-3-phenylthio-propionic acid (1.7 g.) in N,N-dimethylacetamide (40 ml.) which was cooled to $-15^{\circ}\text{C}.$, at such a rate that that temperature was maintained, and the mixture was stirred at that temperature for 15 minutes. 4-Cyano-3-trifluoromethylaniline (1.5 g.) was added, the mixture was stirred at $-15^{\circ}\text{C}.$ for 30 minutes and then at laboratory temperature for 15 hours, and was then poured into water (800 ml.). The mixture was extracted six times with diethyl ether (80 ml. each time) and the combined extracts were washed successively (50 ml. portions each time) twice with aqueous 3N-hydrochloric acid, once with saturated aqueous sodium chloride solution, twice with saturated aqueous sodium bicarbonate solution, and again once with saturated aqueous sodium chloride solution, dried over magnesium sulphate and evaporated to dryness under reduced

pressure. The residue was purified by chromatography on a silica gel column (Merck 7734) using methylene chloride as eluant. The product was crystallised from a 5:1 v/v mixture of toluene and petroleum ether (b.p. 60-80C.) and there was thus obtained 4-cyano-3-trifluoromethyl-N-(2-hydroxy-2-methyl-3-phenylthiopropionyl)aniline, m.p. 81.5-83°C.

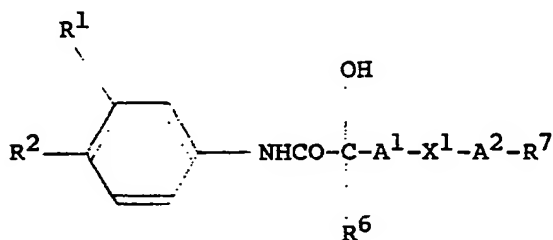
The 2-hydroxy-2-methyl-3-phenylthiopropionic acid used as starting material was obtained as follows:-

Route A

A solution of methyl 2,3-epoxy-2-methylpropionate (4.06 g.) in tetrahydrofuran (40 ml.) was added during 20 minutes to a stirred suspension of thiophenol (7.7 g.) and sodium hydride (2.9 g. of a 60% dispersion in mineral oil) in tetrahydrofuran (75 ml.) which was maintained under an atmosphere of nitrogen, and the mixture was stirred at laboratory temperature for 15 minutes, then at 60°C. for 4 hours, cooled and neutralised by dropwise addition of a solution of concentrated sulphuric acid (0.5 ml.) in ethanol (5 ml.) A solution of potassium hydroxide (10 g.) in a mixture of water (30 ml.) and ethanol (150 ml.) was added and the mixture was heated under reflux for 22 hours. The organic solvents were removed by evaporation under reduced pressure, water (50 ml.) was added and the mixture was washed twice with diethyl ether (25 ml. each time). The aqueous solution was then acidified with concentrated aqueous hydrochloric acid and extracted four times with diethyl ether (100 ml. each time). The combined extracts were washed with saturated aqueous sodium chloride solution (50 ml.), dried over magnesium sulphate and evaporated to dryness, and the residue was crystallised from a 5:1 v/v mixture of petroleum ether (b.p. 60-80C.) and toluene. There was thus obtained 2-hydroxy-2-methyl-3-phenylthiopropionic acid, m.p. 95.5-97°C.

Example 2

The process described in Example 1 was repeated except that the appropriate aniline and the appropriate 2-hydroxy-substituted-alkanoic acid were used as starting materials. There were thus obtained the compounds described in the following table:-



R ¹	R ²	R ⁶	A ¹	X ¹	A ²	R ⁷	m.p. (°C.)
CF ₃	NO ₂	CH ₃	CH ₂	S	-	phenyl	105-106
CF ₃	NO ₂	CH ₃	CH ₂	S	-	2-nitrophenyl	52-54
CF ₃	NO ₂	CH ₃	CH ₂	S	-	methyl	109-110
CF ₃	NO ₂	CH ₃	CH ₂	S	-	ethyl	(gum)
CF ₃	NO ₂	CH ₃	CH ₂	S	-	n-propyl	(gum)
CF ₃	NO ₂	CH ₃	CH ₂	S	-	isopropyl	66-68
CF ₃	CN	CH ₃	CH ₂	S	-	ethyl	(gum)
CF ₃	CN	CH ₃	CH ₂	S	-	n-propyl	(gum)
CF ₃	CN	CH ₃	CH ₂	S	-	isopropyl	98-100
CF ₃	CN	CH ₃	CH ₂	S	-	methyl	108.5-109.5

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R ¹	R ²	R ⁶	A ¹	X ¹	A ²	R ⁷	m.p. (°C.)
CN	CN	CH ₃	CH ₂	S	-	phenyl	82-83.5
Cl	Cl	CH ₃	CH ₂	S	-	methyl	90.5-91.5
Cl	CN	CH ₃	CH ₂	S	-	phenyl	60-62
Cl	CN	CH ₃	CH ₂	S	-	ethyl	96-98
NO ₂	Cl	CH ₃	CH ₂	S	-	phenyl	77-78
Cl	NO ₂	CH ₃	CH ₂	S	-	phenyl	88-90
Cl	NO ₂	CH ₃	CH ₂	S	-	ethyl	(gum)
Cl	NO ₂	CH ₃	CH ₂	S	-	n-butyl	(gum)
CH ₃ O	CN	CH ₃	CH ₂	S	-	phenyl	(gum)
CH ₃	CN	CH ₃	CH ₂	S	-	phenyl	98-99
CF ₃	NO ₂	CH ₃	CH ₂	S	CH ₂	phenyl	79-80
CF ₃	NO ₂	CH ₃	CH ₂ CH ₂	S	-	phenyl	(gum)
CF ₃	CN	CH ₃	CH ₂ CH ₂	S	-	phenyl	115-116.5
CF ₃	CN	CH ₃	CH ₂	S	CH ₂	phenyl	105-106
Cl	CN	CH ₃	CH ₂	S	CH ₂	phenyl	123-124
CF ₃	NO ₂	CH ₃	CH ₂	O	-	phenyl	118-119
CF ₃	CN	CH ₃	CH ₂	O	-	phenyl	(gum)
CF ₃	NO ₂	CF ₃	CH ₂	S	-	phenyl	139-140
CF ₃	NO ₂	CF ₃	CH ₂	S	-	4-chlorophenyl	147-148
CF ₃	NO ₂	CF ₃	CH ₂	S	-	4-nitrophenyl	145-146
CF ₃	NO ₂	CF ₃	CH ₂	S	-	methyl	82-85
CF ₃	NO ₂	CF ₃	CH ₂	S	-	ethyl	79-81
CF ₃	NO ₂	CF ₃	CH ₂	S	-	n-propyl	67-68
CF ₃	NO ₂	CF ₃	CH ₂	S	-	isopropyl	88-89
CF ₃	CN	CF ₃	CH ₂	S	-	phenyl	143-144
CF ₃	CN	CF ₃	CH ₂	S	-	4-chlorophenyl	178-179
CF ₃	CN	CF ₃	CH ₂	S	-	methyl	120.5-122
CF ₃	CN	CF ₃	CH ₂	S	-	ethyl	119-120
CF ₃	CN	CF ₃	CH ₂	S	-	n-propyl	88-90
CF ₃	CN	CF ₃	CH ₂	S	-	isopropyl	107-109
Cl	Cl	CF ₃	CH ₂	S	-	phenyl	104
Cl	Cl	CF ₃	CH ₂	S	-	methyl	84-85

R ¹	R ²	R ⁶	A ¹	X ¹	A ²	R ⁷	m.p. (°C.)
Cl	Cl	CF ₃	CH ₂	S	-	ethyl	57-59
Cl	Cl	CF ₃	CH ₂	S	-	n-propyl	60-61
Cl	Cl	CF ₃	CH ₂	S	-	isopropyl	57-59
Cl	CN	CF ₃	CH ₂	S	-	phenyl	152
Cl	CN	CF ₃	CH ₂	S	-	methyl	121-122.5
Cl	CN	CF ₃	CH ₂	S	-	ethyl	95-96
Cl	CN	CF ₃	CH ₂	S	-	n-propyl	89-90
Cl	CN	CF ₃	CH ₂	S	-	isopropyl	87-88
CF ₃	NO ₂	CF ₃	CH ₂	S	CH ₂	phenyl	120-121
CF ₃	CN	CF ₃	CH ₂	S	CH ₂	phenyl	138-139
Cl	Cl	CF ₃	CH ₂	S	CH ₂	phenyl	145-146

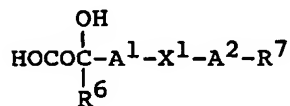
All the anilines used as starting materials are known compounds. The 2-hydroxy-substituted-alkanoic acids were obtained either by the process described in the second part of Example 1 (Route A), or by the process exemplified below (Route B). Those acids which are novel and which were characterised by melting point are described in the table below:-

Route B

1,1,1-Trifluoro-3-phenylthioprop-2-one (13.1 g.) was added dropwise to a cooled stirred solution of potassium cyanide (4.4 g.) in water (16 ml.) at such a rate that the temperature of the mixture was maintained at between 0° and 5°C. A 4:1 v/v mixture of water and concentrated sulphuric acid (17.1 ml.) was added at such a rate as to maintain the above temperature, and the mixture was then stirred at laboratory temperature for 15

hours and then extracted three times with diethyl ether (25 ml. each time). The combined extracts were washed three times with water (25 ml. each time), dried over magnesium sulphate and evaporated to dryness under reduced pressure.

5 A mixture of the cyanhydrin thus obtained (3.0 g.) and concentrated aqueous hydrochloric acid (30 ml.) was heated in a sealed tube at 110°C. for 6 hours, cooled and poured onto ice. The aqueous mixture was extracted four times with diethyl ether (25 ml. each time) and the combined ethereal solutions were extracted 10 twice with saturated aqueous sodium bicarbonate solution (40 ml. each time). The combined extracts were acidified with aqueous hydrochloric acid and then extracted twice with diethyl ether (40 ml. each time). 15 The combined extracts were dried over magnesium sulphate and evaporated to dryness and the residue was stirred with petroleum ether (b.p. 60-80°C.). The mixture was filtered and there was thus obtained as solid residue 2- 20 hydroxy-3-phenylthio-2-trifluoromethylpropionic acid, m.p. 83-84°C.

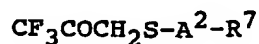


R ⁶	A ¹	X ¹	A ²	R ⁷	Route	m.p. (°C.)
CH ₃	CH ₂	S	-	2-nitrophenyl	B	85-88
CH ₃	CH ₂	S	-	methyl	A	48-52
CH ₃	CH ₂	S	-	isopropyl	A	50-52
CH ₃	CH ₂	S	CH ₂	phenyl	A	62-63
CH ₃	CH ₂	O	-	phenyl	A	128-130
CF ₃	CH ₂	S	-	4-nitrophenyl	B	169-171*
CF ₃	CH ₂	S	-	methyl	B	73-76
CF ₃	CH ₂	S	-	n-propyl	B	37-40
CF ₃	CH ₂	S	-	isopropyl	B	57-59
CF ₃	CH ₂	S	CH ₂	phenyl	B	91-92

* m.p. of dicyclohexylamine salt used for characterisation.

5 The thio-alkanones used in Route B were prepared by the reaction of the appropriate thiol with the appropriate bromoketone by conventional means (for example as described in Zhur.org.Khim., 1971, 7, 2221). Those which are novel and were characterised are described in the following table:-

10



A ²	R ⁷	b.p. (°C./mm.Hg.)
-	4-nitrophenyl	84.5-86 (m.p.)
-	methyl	39-47/100
-	n-propyl	72-82/65
-	isopropyl	75-85/87
CH ₂	phenyl	118-122/17

Example 3

A solution of ethanethiol (0.45 ml.) in tetrahydrofuran (5 ml.) was added dropwise to a stirred suspension of sodium hydride (0.28 g. of a 60% dispersion in mineral oil) in tetrahydrofuran (10 ml.) which was maintained at 0-5°C., and the mixture was then stirred at laboratory temperature for 15 minutes. A solution of 3,4-dichloro-N-(2,3-epoxy-2-methylpropionyl)aniline (1.5 g.) in tetrahydrofuran (15 ml.) was added dropwise and the mixture was stirred at laboratory temperature for 15 hours. Water (50 ml.) was added, the organic layer was separated and the aqueous layer was extracted twice with diethyl ether (25 ml. each time). The combined organic solutions were dried over magnesium sulphate and evaporated to dryness under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash-chromatography on silica gel (Merck 9385) using a 1:1 v/v mixture of ethyl acetate and petroleum ether (b.p. 60-80°C.) as eluant. The product was crystallised from a 5:1 v/v mixture of toluene and petroleum ether (b.p. 60-80°C.) and there was thus obtained 3,4-dichloro-N-(3-ethylthio-2-hydroxy-2-methylpropionyl)aniline, m.p. 81-83°C.

The 3,4-dichloro-N-(2,3-epoxy-2-methylpropionyl)aniline used as starting material was obtained as follows:-

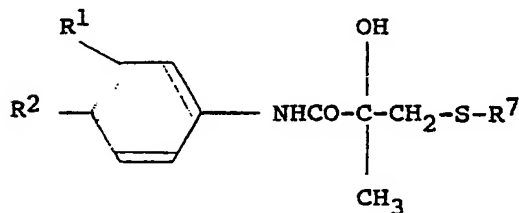
A solution of 3,4-dichloroaniline (10 g.) in dimethylacetamide (25 ml.) was added dropwise to a stirred, cooled solution of methacryloyl chloride (10 ml.) in dimethylacetamide (50 ml.) at such a rate that the internal temperature of the mixture did not exceed 0°C., and the mixture was then stirred at laboratory temperature for 16 hours and then poured into cold water (1 litre). The mixture was extracted 5 times with diethyl ether (100 ml. each time) and the combined

extracts were dried and evaporated to dryness. The residue was crystallised from a 1:1 v/v mixture of toluene and petroleum ether (b.p. 60-80°C.) at -50°C., and there was thus obtained 3,4-dichloro-N-methacryloyl-aniline, m.p. 120-122°C.

m-Chloroperbenzoic acid (3.4 g.) was added portionwise to a boiling solution of 3,4-dichloro-N-methacryloylaniline (2.2 g.) and 4-methyl-2,6-di-t-butylphenol (0.05 g.) in 1,1,1-trichloroethane (75 ml.) and the mixture was heated under reflux for 4 hours, cooled and washed successively (25 ml. portions each time) once with saturated aqueous sodium sulphite solution, twice with saturated aqueous sodium bicarbonate solution and once with saturated sodium chloride solution, dried over magnesium sulphate and evaporated to dryness. The residue was purified by chromatography on a silica gel (Merck 7734) column using a 1:1 v/v mixture of ethyl acetate and petroleum ether (b.p. 60-80°C.) as eluant. The product was crystallised from petroleum ether (b.p. 60-80°C.) and there was thus obtained 3,4-dichloro-N-(2,3-epoxy-2-methylpropionyl)aniline, m.p. 90-92°C.

Example 4

The process described in Example 3 was repeated using the appropriate thiol and the appropriate N-(2,3-epoxy-2-methylpropionyl)aniline as starting materials, and there were thus obtained the compounds described in the following table:-



R ¹	R ²	R ⁷	m.p. (°C.)
Cl	Cl	thiazol-2-yl	105-107
Cl	Cl	pyrimidin-2-yl	103-105
CF ₃	NO ₂	2-chlorophenyl	98-100
CF ₃	NO ₂	3-chlorophenyl	132-133
CF ₃	NO ₂	4-chlorophenyl	101-103
CF ₃	NO ₂	4-fluorophenyl	112-113
CF ₃	NO ₂	4-cyanophenyl	108-111
CF ₃	NO ₂	4-nitrophenyl	139-141
CF ₃	NO ₂	4-methoxyphenyl	120-121
CF ₃	NO ₂	4-methylthiophenyl	111-112
CF ₃	NO ₂	n-pentyl	(oil)
CF ₃	NO ₂	2-hydroxyethyl	(oil)
CF ₃	NO ₂	allyl	80-81
CF ₃	NO ₂	2-methylallyl	78-79
CF ₃	NO ₂	cyclopentyl	87-88.5
CF ₃	NO ₂	pyrid-2-yl	155-157
CF ₃	NO ₂	pyrid-3-yl	149-150
CF ₃	NO ₂	pyrid-4-yl	193-195
CF ₃	NO ₂	6-chloropyrid-2-yl	159-162
CF ₃	NO ₂	thiazol-2-yl	131-132
CF ₃	NO ₂	4-methylthiazol-2-yl	160-162
CF ₃	NO ₂	5-methyl-1,3,4-thiadiazol-2-yl	109-111
CF ₃	CN	4-chlorophenyl	137-138
CF ₃	CN	4-fluorophenyl	116-117
CF ₃	CN	4-methylthiophenyl	125-126
CF ₃	CN	pyrid-2-yl	137-139
CF ₃	CN	pyrid-3-yl	135-136
CF ₃	CN	5-chloropyrid-2-yl	113-115
CF ₃	CN	thien-2-yl	101-103
CF ₃	CN	thiazol-2-yl	107-109

R ¹	R ²	R ⁷	m.p. (°C.)
CF ₃	CN	4,5-dihydrothiazol-2-yl	110-111
CF ₃	CN	1-methylimidazol-2-yl	112
CF ₃	CN	benzthiazol-2-yl	178-180
CF ₃	CN	pyrimidin-2-yl	120-121

Similarly, by using the appropriate thiol and the appropriate N-(2,3-epoxy-2-methylbutyryl)aniline there were obtained:-

5 4-cyano-3-trifluoromethyl-N-[(2SR,3RS)-3-p-fluorophenylthio-2-hydroxy-2-methylbutyryl]aniline, m.p. 114-116°C. and 4-nitro-3-trifluoromethyl-N-[(2SR,3RS)-2-hydroxy-2-methyl-3-phenylthiobutyryl]aniline, m.p. 143-145°C.

10 The N-(2,3-epoxy-2-methylpropionyl or butyryl)anilines used as starting material were obtained by the epoxidation of the appropriate N-methacryloyl or N-methylcrotonoylaniline by a similar process to that described in the second part of Example 3. N-Methacryloyl-4-nitro-3-trifluoromethylaniline had m.p. 15 102-104°C. and the corresponding epoxy compound had m.p. 119-121°C.;

 4-cyano-N-methacryloyl-3-trifluoromethylaniline had m.p. 137-139°C. and the corresponding epoxy-compound had m.p. 149-150°C.

20 N-(2-methylcrotonoyl)-4-nitro-3-trifluoromethylaniline had m.p. 65-67°C. and the corresponding epoxy compound had m.p. 99-102°C.;

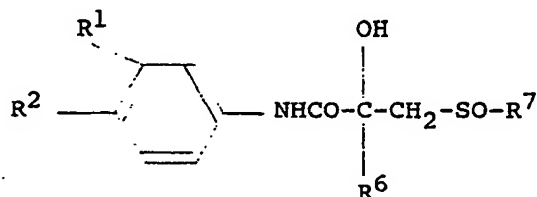
 4-cyano-N-(2-methylcrotonoyl)-3-trifluoromethylaniline had m.p. 127-128°C. and the 25 corresponding epoxy compound had m.p. 100-103°C.

(The last two compounds are derived from trans-tiglic acid as opposed to cis-angelic acid).

Example 5

A solution of sodium metaperiodate (0.407 g.)
 5 in water (15 ml.) was added dropwise to a stirred
 solution of 4-cyano-3-trifluoromethyl-N-(3-ethylthio-2-
 hydroxy-2-trifluoromethylpropionyl)aniline (0.6 g.) in
 methanol (25 ml.) and the mixture was stirred at
 laboratory temperature for 48 hours and then filtered.
 10 The solid was washed with methanol (25 ml.) and the
 mixture was filtered, and the combined filtrates were
 evaporated to dryness under reduced pressure. The
 residue was dissolved in ethyl acetate (150 ml.) and the
 solution was washed successively with water (15 ml.),
 15 saturated aqueous sodium sulphite solution (25 ml.) and
 saturated aqueous sodium chloride solution (25 ml.),
 dried over magnesium sulphate and evaporated to dryness
 under reduced pressure. The residue was chromatographed
 on silica gel (Merck 7734) using a 1:1 v/v mixture of
 20 ethyl acetate and petroleum ether (b.p. 60-80°C.) as
 eluant, and the two diastereoisomers of 4-cyano-3-
 trifluoromethyl-N-(3-ethylsulphiny-2-hydroxy-2-
 trifluoromethylpropionyl)aniline were obtained by
 evaporation of the appropriate fractions of the eluate.
 25 These had m.p. 141-143°C. (more polar isomer) and 160-
 162°C. (less polar isomer).

The process described above was repeated using
 the appropriate thiopropionylaniline as starting
 material, and there were thus obtained the compounds
 30 described in the following table:-

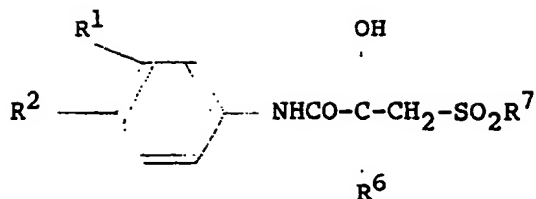


R ¹	R ²	R ⁶	R ⁷	Diastereo- isomer	m.p. (°C.)
CF ₃	NO ₂	CH ₃	phenyl	more polar	126.5-127.5
CF ₃	CN	CH ₃	phenyl	more polar	164-165
CF ₃	CN	CF ₃	phenyl	mixed	175-176
CF ₃	CN	CH ₃	ethyl	mixed	110-112

Example 6

A solution of m-chloroperbenzoic acid (0.40 g.) in methylene chloride (80 ml.) was added to a stirred solution of 4-cyano-3-trifluoromethyl-N-(2-hydroxy-3-phenylthio-2-trifluoromethylpropionyl)aniline (0.38 g.) in methylene chloride (100 ml.) during 30 minutes and the reaction mixture was then stirred at laboratory temperature for 18 hours. Aqueous 10% w/v sodium sulphite gel solution (15 ml.) was added, the mixture was stirred and the organic layer was separated, washed successively twice with aqueous 10% w/v sodium carbonate solution (15 ml. each time) and once with saturated aqueous sodium chloride solution (15 ml.), dried over anhydrous magnesium sulphate and evaporated to dryness. The residue was dissolved in a 1:1 v/v mixture of ethyl acetate and petroleum ether (b.p. 60-80°C.) and the solution was chromatographed on a silica gel column (Merck 7734) using a 1:1 v/v mixture of ethyl acetate and petroleum ether (b.p. 60-80°C.) as eluant. There was thus obtained 4-cyano-3-trifluoromethyl-N-(2-hydroxy-3-phenylsulphonyl-2-trifluoromethylpropionyl)aniline, m.p. 175-176°C.

The process described above was repeated using the appropriate thiopropionylaniline as starting material and there were thus obtained the compounds described in the following table:-



R ¹	R ²	R ⁶	R ⁷	m.p. (°C.)
CF ₃	NO ₂	CH ₃	phenyl	149-151
CF ₃	NO ₂	CH ₃	4-fluorophenyl	188-189
CF ₃	NO ₂	CH ₃	pyrid-2-yl	148-150
CF ₃	NO ₂	CH ₃	ethyl	135-136
CF ₃	NO ₂	CH ₃	n-propyl	118-119
CF ₃	NO ₂	CH ₃	n-pentyl	104-105
CF ₃	CN	CH ₃	phenyl	172-173.5
CF ₃	CN	CH ₃	4-fluorophenyl	189-191
CF ₃	CN	CH ₃	ethyl	116-118
CF ₃	CN	CH ₃	n-propyl	117-119
CF ₃	CN	CF ₃	ethyl	164-165
Cl	NO ₂	CH ₃	ethyl	145-146
Cl	NO ₂	CH ₃	n-butyl	116-118
Cl	CN	CH ₃	ethyl	135-136
CH ₃ O	CN	CH ₃	phenyl	172-173

Example 7

(-)-Camphanoyl chloride (4.33 g.) was added portionwise during 5 minutes to a solution of 4-cyano-3-trifluoromethyl-N-(2-hydroxy-3-phenylthio-2-trifluoromethylpropionyl)aniline (5.8 g.) in pyridine (35 ml.) and the mixture was heated at 95°C. for 150 minutes and then evaporated to dryness. Toluene (50 ml.) was

added and the mixture was again evaporated to dryness. The residue was dissolved in ethyl acetate (200 ml.) and the solution was washed with water (30 ml.) and then twice with saturated aqueous sodium chloride solution (20 ml. each time), dried over magnesium sulphate and evaporated to dryness under reduced pressure. The residue was dissolved in methylene chloride (10 ml.) and the solution was flash chromatographed on silica gel (Merck 9385) using methylene chloride as eluant. There were thus obtained the two diastereoisomers of 4-cyano-3-trifluoromethyl-N-[2-(-)-camphanoyloxy-3-phenylthio-2-trifluoromethylpropionyl)aniline, the less polar isomer having m.p. 121-123°C. and the more polar isomer having m.p. 140-143°C.

A mixture of a solution of the less polar isomer (2.0 g.) in methanol (30 ml.) and aqueous 4% w/v sodium hydroxide solution (3.5 ml.) was stirred at laboratory temperature for 30 minutes and then evaporated to dryness under reduced pressure. The residue was dissolved in ethyl acetate (160 ml.) and the solution was washed successively with water (25 ml.), saturated aqueous sodium chloride solution (25 ml.), aqueous 2N-hydrochloric acid (15 ml.), water (25 ml.) and saturated aqueous sodium chloride solution (25 ml.), dried over magnesium sulphate and evaporated to dryness. The residue was dissolved in methylene chloride (5 ml.) and flash-chromatographed on silica gel (Merck 9385) using methylene chloride as eluant. The product was crystallised from petroleum ether (b.p. 60-80°C.) and there was thus obtained (-)-4-cyano-3-trifluoromethyl-N-(2-hydroxy-3-phenylthio-2-trifluoromethylpropionyl)aniline, m.p. 156-157°C., $[\alpha]_D^{23} = 43.8^\circ$ (C, 1% in methanol).

The process described in the preceding paragraph was repeated using the more polar isomer of the camphanoyl ester, and the product obtained was crystallised from a

5:1 v/v mixture of toluene and petroleum ether (b.p. 60-80°C.). There was thus obtained (+)-4-cyano-3-trifluoromethyl-N-(2-hydroxy-3-phenylthio-2-trifluoromethylpropionyl)aniline, m.p. 159-160°C., $[\alpha]_D^{23} = +45.5^\circ$ (C, 1% in methanol).

Example 8

The process described in Example 7 was repeated using 4-cyano-3-trifluoromethyl-N-(3-p-fluorophenylthio-2-hydroxy-2-methylpropionyl)aniline as the compound to be resolved. There were thus obtained the (-)-isomer, m.p. 94-96°C., $[\alpha]_D^{24} = -3.06^\circ$ (C, 1% in methanol) and the (+)-isomer, m.p. 95-97°C., $[\alpha]_D^{24} = +2.42^\circ$ (C, 1% in methanol).

Example 9

n-Butyl-lithium (4.7 ml. of a 1.6 molar solution in hexane) was added during 2 minutes to a stirred solution of methylthiobenzene (0.82 ml.) and 1,4-diazabicyclo[2,2,2]octane (0.78 g.) in tetrahydrofuran (20 ml.) which was maintained at -2°C. under an atmosphere of argon. The mixture was allowed to warm up to +2°C., stirred at that temperature for 2 hours, cooled to -65°C. and a solution of N-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)pyruvamide (0.81 g.) in tetrahydrofuran (5 ml) was added during 5 minutes. The mixture was stirred and allowed to warm up to -30°C. during 90 minutes, aqueous 2N-hydrochloric acid (25 ml.) was added, the tetrahydrofuran was removed by evaporation under reduced pressure and the residue was extracted three times with diethyl ether (40 ml. each time). The combined extracts were washed with saturated aqueous sodium chloride solution, dried and evaporated to dryness and the residue was purified by flash chromatography on a silica gel column (Merck 9385) using a 5:2 v/v mixture of petroleum ether (b.p. 60-80°C.) and ethyl acetate as eluant. The product was crystallised from petroleum ether (b.p. 60-80°C.) and there was thus obtained 3,4-dichloro-

N-(2-hydroxy-2-methyl-3-phenylthiopropionyl)aniline, m.p. 85-86°C.

The process described above was repeated using 4-bromo-2-methylsulphonylthiophen as starting material in place of methylthiobenzene. There was thus obtained N-[3-(4-bromothien-2-ylsulphonyl)-2-hydroxy-2-methylpropionyl]-3,4-dichloroaniline, m.p. 170-171°C.

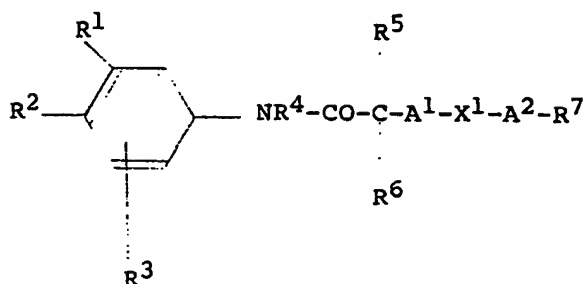
Example 10

A solution of N-methylaniline (0.38 ml.) in tetrahydrofuran (2 ml.) as added to a stirred suspension of sodium hydride (0.17 g. of a 50% dispersion in mineral oil) in tetrahydrofuran (4 ml.) which was maintained under an atmosphere of argon, the mixture was stirred at laboratory temperature for 1 hour and a solution of N-(2,3-epoxy-2-methylpropionyl)-4-nitro-3-trifluoromethylaniline (1.0 g.) in tetrahydrofuran (10 ml.) was added dropwise. The mixture was stirred at laboratory temperature for 16 hours, then at 100°C. for 1 hour, cooled and water (50 ml.) was added. The mixture was extracted three times with ethyl acetate (30 ml. each time) and the combined extracts were washed with saturated aqueous sodium chloride solution, dried and evaporated to dryness. The residue was purified by chromatography on a silica gel column (Merck 7734) using a 1:1 v/v mixture of ethyl acetate and petroleum ether (b.p. 60-80°C.), and there was thus obtained N-(2-hydroxy-2-methyl-3-N-methylanilinopropionyl)-4-nitro-3-trifluoromethylaniline, m.p. 121-124°C.

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What we claim is:-

1. An acylanilide of the formula:-



- wherein R^1 is cyano, carbamoyl, nitro, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo or hydrogen, or alkyl, alkoxy, alkanoyl, alkylthio, alkylsulphinyl, alkylsulphonyl, perfluoroalkyl, perfluoroalkylthio, perfluoroalkylsulphinyl or perfluoroalkylsulphonyl each of up to 4 carbon atoms, or phenylthio, phenylsulphinyl or phenylsulphonyl;
- wherein R^2 is cyano, carbamoyl, nitro, fluoro, chloro, bromo or iodo, or alkanoyl, alkylthio, alkylsulphinyl, alkylsulphonyl, perfluoroalkyl, perfluoroalkylthio, perfluoroalkylsulphinyl or perfluoroalkylsulphonyl each of up to 4 carbon atoms, or phenylthio, phenylsulphinyl or phenylsulphonyl;
- wherein R^3 is hydrogen or halogen;
- wherein R^4 is hydrogen or alkyl of up to 4 carbon atoms, or is joined to R^5 as stated below;
- wherein R^5 is hydrogen, hydroxy or alkoxy or acyloxy each of up to 15 carbon atoms, or is joined to R^4 to form an oxycarbonyl group such that together with the -N-CO-C- part of the molecule it forms an oxazolidinedione group;

wherein R^6 is alkyl or halogenoalkyl of up to 4 carbon atoms, or has the formula $-A^3-R^8$ or $-A^4-X^2-A^5-R^9$;
 wherein A^1 and A^4 , which may be the same or
 5 different, each is alkylene of up to 6 carbon atoms;
 wherein A^2 , A^3 and A^5 , which may be the same or different, each is a direct link or alkylene of up to 6 carbon atoms;
 wherein X^1 and X^2 , which may be the same or
 10 different, each is oxygen, sulphur, sulphinyl ($-SO-$), sulphonyl ($-SO_2-$), imino ($-NH-$) or alkylimino ($-NR^{10}-$ wherein R^{10} is alkyl of up to 6 carbon atoms);
 wherein R^7 and R^9 , which may be the same or
 15 different, each is alkyl, alkenyl, hydroxyalkyl or cycloalkyl each of up to 6 carbon atoms, or R^7 or R^9 is phenyl which bears one, two or three substituents selected from hydrogen, halogen, nitro, carboxy, carbamoyl and cyano, and alkyl, alkoxy, alkanoyl,
 20 alkylthio, alkylsulphinyl, alkylsulphonyl, perfluoroalkyl, perfluoroalkylthio, perfluoroalkylsulphinyl, perfluoroalkylsulphonyl, alkoxy carbonyl and N-alkylcarbamoyl each of up to 4 carbon atoms, and phenyl, phenylthio, phenylsulphinyl and phenylsulphonyl; or R^7 or R^9 is naphthyl; or
 25 R^7 or R^9 is 5- or 6- membered saturated or unsaturated heterocyclic which contains one, two or three heteroatoms selected from oxygen, nitrogen and sulphur, which heterocyclic may be a single ring or may
 30 be fused to a benzo-ring, and which heterocyclic is unsubstituted or bears one or two halogen, cyano or amino, or alkyl, alkoxy, alkylthio, alkylsulphinyl or alkylsulphonyl each of up to 4 carbon atoms, or oxy or hydroxy substituents, or which if sufficiently saturated
 35 may bear one or two oxo substituents; and wherein R^8

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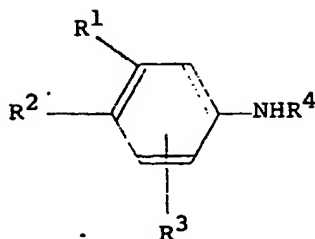
is phenyl, naphthyl or heterocyclic as defined above for R⁷ or R⁹.

2. An acylanilide as claimed in claim 1 wherein R¹ is cyano, nitro, trifluoromethyl, chloro, methyl or methoxy, R² is cyano, nitro, trifluoromethyl or chloro, R³ and R⁴ are both hydrogen, R⁵ is hydroxy, R⁶ is methyl or trifluoromethyl, A¹ is methylene, ethylene or ethylidene, X¹ is oxygen, sulphur, sulphinyl, sulphonyl, imino or methylimino, A² is a direct link or methylene and R⁷ is alkyl, alkenyl, hydroxyalkyl or cycloalkyl each of up to 6 carbon atoms, or phenyl which is unsubstituted or which bears one fluoro, chloro, cyano, nitro, methoxy or methylthio substituent, or thienyl, imidazolyl, thiazolyl, benzothiazolyl, thiadiazolyl, pyridyl or pyrimidinyl which is unsubstituted or which bears one chloro, bromo or methyl substituent.

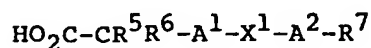
3. An acylanilide as claimed in claim 1 wherein R¹ is trifluoromethyl, R² is cyano or nitro, R³ and R⁴ are both hydrogen, R⁵ is hydroxy, R⁶ is methyl, A¹ is methylene, X¹ is sulphur, sulphinyl or sulphonyl, A² is a direct link and R⁷ is alkyl of up to 3 carbon atoms, or is allyl, phenyl, p-fluorophenyl, thiazol-2-yl, 4-methylthiazol-2-yl, 5-methyl-1,3,4-thiadiazol-2-yl or 2-pyridyl.

4. The compound 3-chloro-4-cyano-N-(3-ethylthio-2-hydroxy-2-methylpropionyl)-aniline;
3-chloro-4-cyano-N-(3-ethylsulphonyl-2-hydroxy-2-methylpropionyl)aniline;
4-cyano-3-trifluoromethyl-N-(2-hydroxy-2-methyl-3-phenylsulphonylpropionyl)aniline;
4-cyano-3-trifluoromethyl-N-(3-ethylsulphonyl-2-hydroxy-2-methylpropionyl)aniline;
4-nitro-3-trifluoromethyl-N-(2-hydroxy-3-phenylsulphonyl-2-methylpropionyl)aniline;
4-nitro-3-trifluoromethyl-N-(3-ethylsulphonyl-2-hydroxy-

- 2-methylpropionyl)aniline;
3-chloro-4-nitro-N-(2-hydroxy-3-phenylthio-2-methyl-
propionyl)aniline;
4-nitro-3-trifluoromethyl-N-[2-hydroxy-2-methyl-3-
5 (thiazol-2-ylthio)propionyl]aniline;
4-nitro-3-trifluoromethyl-N-[3-allylthio-2-hydroxy-2-
methylpropionyl)aniline;
4-nitro-3-trifluoromethyl-N-(3-p-fluorophenylthio-2-
hydroxy-2-methylpropionyl)aniline;
10 4-nitro-3-trifluoromethyl-N-[2-hydroxy-2-methyl-
3-(pyrid-2-ylthio)propionyl]aniline;
4-nitro-3-trifluoromethyl-N-[2-hydroxy-2-methyl-3-(5-
methyl-1,3,4-thiadiazol-2-ylthio)propionyl]aniline;
4-nitro-3-trifluoromethyl-N-[2-hydroxy-2-methyl-3-(4-
15 methylthiazol-2-ylthio)propionyl]aniline;
4-nitro-3-trifluoromethyl-N-[2-hydroxy-2-methyl-
3-(pyrid-2-ylsulphonyl)propionyl]aniline;
4-nitro-3-trifluoromethyl-N-(3-p-fluorophenylsulphonyl-
2-hydroxy-2-methylpropionyl)aniline;
20 4-cyano-3-trifluoromethyl-N-[2-hydroxy-2-methyl-3-
(thiazol-2-ylthio)propionyl]aniline;
4-cyano-3-trifluoromethyl-N-[2-hydroxy-2-methyl-
3-(pyrid-2-ylthio)propionyl]aniline;
4-cyano-3-trifluoromethyl-N-(2-hydroxy-2-methyl-3-
25 methylthiopropionyl)aniline;
4-cyano-3-trifluoromethyl-N-(3-p-fluorophenylthio-2-
hydroxy-2-methylpropionyl)aniline.
5. The compound 4-cyano-3-trifluoromethyl-N-(3-p-
fluorophenylsulphonyl-2-hydroxy-2-methylpropionyl)-
30 aniline.
6. A process for the manufacture of an
acylanilide, claimed in claim 1, which comprises
(a) the reaction of an amine of the formula:-

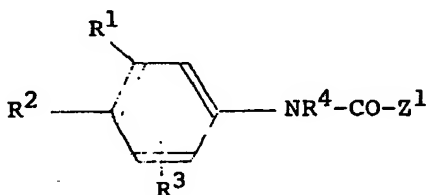


wherein R¹, R², R³ and R⁴ have the meanings stated in claim 1, with an acid of the formula:-

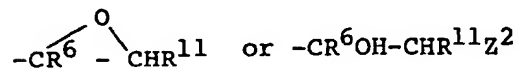


5 wherein R⁵, R⁶, R⁷, X¹, A¹ and A² have the meanings stated in claim 1, or with a reactive derivative of said acid; or

(b) for the manufacture of an acylanilide wherein R⁵ is hydroxy and X¹ is sulphur or alkylimino, the
10 reaction of an epoxide of the formula:-



wherein R¹, R², R³ and R⁴ have the meanings stated above and wherein Z¹ has the formula



15 wherein R⁶ has the meaning stated above, wherein Z² is a displaceable group and wherein R¹¹ is such that -CHR¹¹- is -A¹- as stated above, with a thiol or

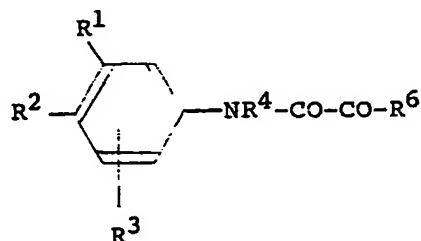
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amine of the formula:-

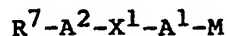


wherein R^7 and A^2 have the meanings stated above and
wherein R^{10} has the meaning stated in claim 1; or

- 5 (c) for the manufacture of an acylanilide wherein
 R^5 is hydroxy, the reaction of a compound of the
formula:-

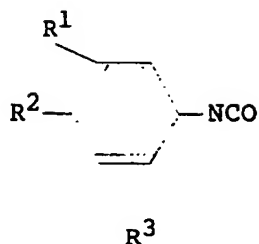


- 10 wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 and R^6 have the
meanings stated above, with an organometallic compound
of the formula -

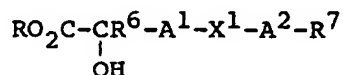


wherein A^1 , A^2 , R^7 and X^1 have the meanings
stated above and M is a metal radical; or

- 15 (d) for the manufacture of an acylanilide of the
invention wherein R^4 and R^5 are joined together to
form a carbonyloxy group, the reaction of an isocyanate of
the formula:-



wherein R^1 , R^2 and R^3 have the meanings stated above, with an ester of the formula:-



- 5 wherein R^6 , R^7 , X^1 , A^1 and A^2 have the meanings stated above, and wherein R is alkyl of up to 6 carbon atoms: whereafter
- (i) an acylanilide wherein R^5 is hydroxy may be prepared by the hydrolysis of the
- 10 corresponding acylanilide wherein R^5 is acyloxy; or
- (ii) an acylanilide wherein R^5 is hydroxy and R^4 is hydrogen may be prepared by the hydrolysis of the corresponding oxazolidinedione, which may be prepared as described in paragraph (d) above; or
- 15 (iii) an acylanilide wherein R^4 is alkyl may be prepared by the alkylation of the corresponding acylanilide wherein R^4 is hydrogen; or
- (iv) an acylanilide wherein R^5 is acyloxy may be prepared by the acylation of the corresponding acylanilide
- 20 wherein R^5 is hydroxy; or
- (v) an oxazolidinedione wherein R^4 and R^5 are joined together to form a carbonyloxy group may be prepared by the reaction of the corresponding acylanilide wherein R^4 is hydrogen and R^5 is hydroxy with phosgene
- 25 (COCl_2) ; or

- (vi) an acylanilide wherein X^1 or X^2 is sulphinyl or sulphonyl or wherein one or more of R^1 , R^2 and a substituent in the phenyl or heterocyclic group R^7 , R^8 or R^9 is alkylsulphinyl, perfluoroalkylsulphinyl or phenylsulphinyl, or is alkylsulphonyl, perfluoroalkylsulphonyl or phenylsulphonyl, may be prepared by the oxidation of the corresponding acylanilide wherein X^1 or X^2 is sulphur or wherein one or more of R^1 , R^2 and a substituent in the phenyl or heterocyclic group R^7 , R^8 or R^9 is alkylthio, perfluoroalkylthio or phenylthio, respectively; or (vi) a racemic acylanilide wherein R^5 is hydroxy may be separated into its optical isomers by forming an ester of the hydroxy group R^5 with an optically-active acid, separating the diastereoisomeric esters thus obtained, and then hydrolysing each separate ester to the alcohol.
7. A pharmaceutical or veterinary composition which comprises an acylanilide, claimed in claim 1, in association with a pharmaceutically-acceptable diluent or carrier.
8. A composition as claimed in claim 7 which is in a form suitable for oral dosage, as a tablet, capsule, aqueous or oily solution or suspension or emulsion; or in the form of a sterile solution or suspension suitable for parenteral administration; or in the form of an ointment or lotion for topical administration, or in the form of a suppository for anal or vaginal administration.
9. A composition as claimed in claim 7 which additionally contains one or more drugs selected from anti-oestrogens, aromatase inhibitors, progestins, inhibitors of gonadotrophin secretion, LH-RH-analogues, cytotoxic agents, antibiotics and anti-inflammatory agents.

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10. A method for producing an antiandrogenic effect in a warm-blooded animal in need of such treatment which comprises administering to said animal an effective amount of acylanilide claimed in claim 1.

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REGINALD TERRY SLATCHER

AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE
General Authorization No. 97

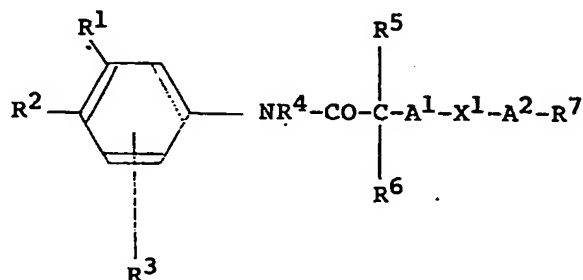
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What we claim is:-

1. A process for the manufacture of an acylanilide of the formula:-

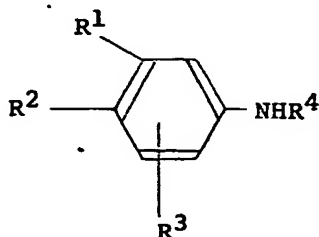


- 5 wherein R¹ is cyano, carbamoyl, nitro, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo or hydrogen, or alkyl, alkoxy, alkanoyl, alkylthio, alkylsulphinyl, alkylsulphonyl, perfluoroalkyl, perfluoroalkylthio, perfluoroalkylsulphinyl or perfluoroalkylsulphonyl each of up to 4
 10 carbon atoms, or phenylthio, phenylsulphinyl or phenylsulphonyl;
 wherein R² is cyano, carbamoyl, nitro, fluoro, chloro, bromo or iodo, or alkanoyl, alkylthio, alkylsulphinyl, alkylsulphonyl, perfluoroalkyl, perfluoroalkylthio,
 15 perfluoroalkylsulphinyl or perfluoroalkylsulphonyl each of up to 4 carbon atoms, or phenylthio, phenylsulphinyl or phenylsulphonyl;
 wherein R³ is hydrogen or halogen;
 wherein R⁴ is hydrogen or alkyl of up to 4 carbon
 20 atoms, or is joined to R⁵ as stated below;
 wherein R⁵ is hydrogen, hydroxy or alkoxy or acyloxy each of up to 15 carbon atoms, or is joined to R⁴ to form an oxycarbonyl group such that together with the
 -N-CO-C- part of the molecule it forms an
 25 oxazolidinedione group;

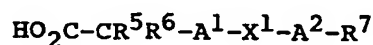
wherein R^6 is alkyl or halogenoalkyl of up to 4 carbon atoms, or has the formula $-A^3-R^8$ or $-A^4-X^2-A^5-R^9$;
 wherein A^1 and A^4 , which may be the same or
 5 different, each is alkylene of up to 6 carbon atoms;
 wherein A^2 , A^3 and A^5 , which may be the same or different, each is a direct link or alkylene of up to 6 carbon atoms;
 wherein X^1 and X^2 , which may be the same or
 10 different, each is oxygen, sulphur, sulphinyl ($-SO-$), sulphonyl ($-SO_2-$), imino ($-NH-$) or alkylimino ($-NR^{10}-$ wherein R^{10} is alkyl of up to 6 carbon atoms);
 wherein R^7 and R^9 , which may be the same or
 15 different, each is alkyl, alkenyl, hydroxyalkyl or cycloalkyl each of up to 6 carbon atoms, or R^7 or R^9 is phenyl which bears one, two or three substituents selected from hydrogen, halogen, nitro, carboxy, carbamoyl and cyano, and alkyl, alkoxy, alkanoyl,
 20 alkylthio, alkylsulphinyl, alkylsulphonyl, perfluoroalkyl, perfluoroalkylthio, perfluoroalkylsulphinyl, perfluoroalkylsulphonyl, alkoxy carbonyl and N -alkylcarbamoyl each of up to 4 carbon atoms, and phenyl, phenylthio, phenylsulphinyl and phenylsulphonyl; or R^7 or R^9 is naphthyl; or
 25 R^7 or R^9 is 5- or 6- membered saturated or unsaturated heterocyclic which contains one, two or three heteroatoms selected from oxygen, nitrogen and sulphur, which heterocyclic may be a single ring or may
 30 be fused to a benzo-ring, and which heterocyclic is unsubstituted or bears one or two halogen, cyano or amino, or alkyl, alkoxy, alkylthio, alkylsulphinyl or alkylsulphonyl each of up to 4 carbon atoms, or oxy or hydroxy substituents, or which if sufficiently saturated
 35 may bear one or two oxo substituents; and wherein R^8

is phenyl, naphthyl or heterocyclic as defined above for R^7 or R^9 , characterised by:-

(a) the reaction of an amine of the formula:-

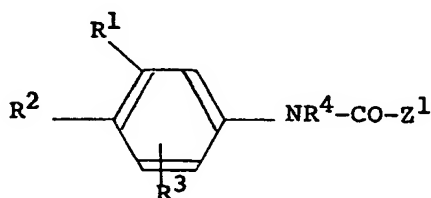


5 wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^3 and R^4 have the meanings stated above, with an acid of the formula:-

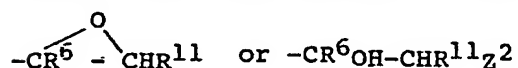


10 wherein R^5 , R^6 , R^7 , X^1 , A^1 and A^2 have the meanings stated above or with a reactive derivative of said acid; or

(b) for the manufacture of an acylanilide wherein R^5 is hydroxy and X^1 is sulphur or alkylimino, the reaction of an epoxide of the formula:-

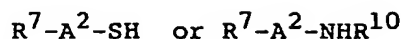


15 wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^3 and R^4 have the meanings stated above and wherein Z^1 has the formula



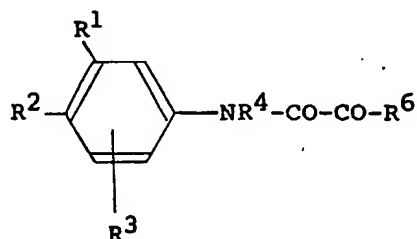
20 wherein R^6 has the meaning stated above, wherein Z^2 is a displaceable group and wherein R^{11} is such that $-CHR^{11}-$ is $-A^1-$ as stated above, with a thiol or

amine of the formula:-

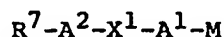


wherein R^7 , R^{10} and A^2 have the meanings stated above; or

- 5 (c) for the manufacture of an acylanilide wherein R^5 is hydroxy, the reaction of a compound of the formula:-

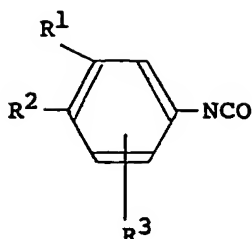


- 10 wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 and R^6 have the meanings stated above, with an organometallic compound of the formula -

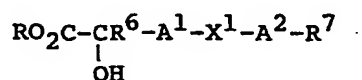


wherein A^1 , A^2 , R^7 and X^1 have the meanings stated above and M is a metal radical; or

- 15 (d) for the manufacture of an acylanilide of the invention wherein R^4 and R^5 are joined together to form a carbonyloxy group, the reaction of an isocyanate of the formula:-



wherein R¹, R² and R³ have the meanings stated above, with an ester of the formula:-



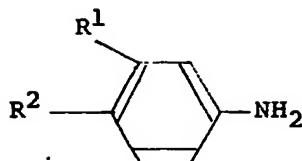
- 5 wherein R⁶, R⁷, X¹, A¹ and A² have the meanings stated above, and wherein R is alkyl of up to 6 carbon atoms: whereafter
- (i) an acylanilide wherein R⁵ is hydroxy may be prepared by the hydrolysis of the
- 10 corresponding acylanilide wherein R⁵ is acyloxy; or
- (ii) an acylanilide wherein R⁵ is hydroxy and R⁴ is hydrogen may be prepared by the hydrolysis of the corresponding oxazolidinedione, which may be prepared as described in paragraph (d) above; or
- 15 (iii) an acylanilide wherein R⁴ is alkyl may be prepared by the alkylation of the corresponding acylanilide wherein R⁴ is hydrogen; or
- (iv) an acylanilide wherein R⁵ is acyloxy may be prepared by the acylation of the corresponding acylanilide
- 20 wherein R⁵ is hydroxy; or
- (v) an oxazolidinedione wherein R⁴ and R⁵ are joined together to form a carbonyloxy group may be prepared by the reaction of the corresponding acylanilide
- wherein R⁴ is hydrogen and R⁵ is hydroxy with phosgene
- 25 (COCl₂); or

(vi) an acylanilide wherein X^1 or X^2 is sulphinyl or sulphonyl, or wherein one or more of R^1 , R^2 and a substituent in the phenyl or heterocyclic group R^7 , R^8 or R^9 is alkylsulphinyl, perfluoroalkylsulphinyl or phenylsulphinyl, or is alkylsulphonyl, perfluoroalkylsulphonyl or phenylsulphonyl, may be prepared by the oxidation of the corresponding acylanilide wherein X^1 or X^2 is sulphur, or wherein more of R^1 , R^2 , and a substituent in the phenyl or heterocyclic group R^7 , R^8 or R^9 is alkylthio, perfluoroalkylthio or phenylthio, respectively; or (vi) a racemic acylanilide wherein R^5 is hydroxy may be separated into its optical isomers by forming an ester of the hydroxy group R^5 with an optically-active acid, separating the diastereoisomeric esters thus obtained, and then hydrolysing each separate ester to the alcohol.

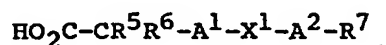
2. A process for the manufacture of an acylanilide of the formula stated in claim 1 wherein R^1 is cyano, nitro, trifluoromethyl, chloro, methyl or methoxy, R^2 is cyano, nitro, trifluoromethyl or chloro, R^3 and R^4 are both hydrogen, R^5 is hydroxy, R^6 is methyl or trifluoromethyl, A^1 is methylene, ethylene or ethylidene, X^1 is oxygen, sulphur, sulphinyl, sulphonyl, imino or methylimino, A^2 is a direct link or methylene and R^7 is alkyl, alkenyl, hydroxyalkyl or cycloalkyl each of up to 6 carbon atoms, or phenyl which is unsubstituted or which bears one fluoro, chloro, cyano, nitro, methoxy or methylthio substituent, or thienyl, imidazolyl, thiazolyl, benzothiazolyl, thiadiazolyl, pyridyl or pyrimidinyl which is unsubstituted or which bears one chloro, bromo or methyl substituent, characterised by :-

(a) the reaction of an amine of the formula:-

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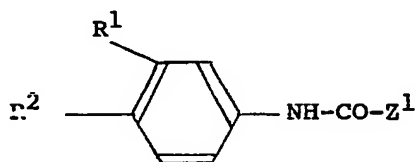


wherein R^1 and R^2 have the meanings stated above,
with an acid of the formula:-

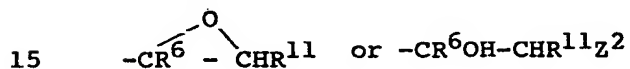


5 wherein R^6 , R^7 , X^1 , A^1 and A^2 have the
meanings stated above and R^5 is hydroxy or acyloxy as
stated in claim 1, or with a reactive derivative of said
acid; or

(b) for the manufacture of an acylanilide wherein
10 X^1 is sulphur or alkylimino, the reaction of an epoxide
of the formula:-

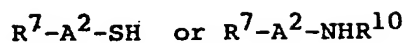


wherein R^1 and R^2 have the meanings stated above and
wherein Z^1 has the formula



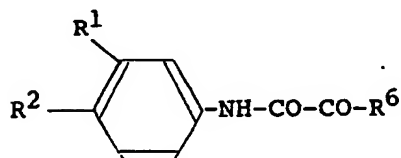
wherein R^6 has the meaning stated above, wherein Z^2
is a displaceable group and wherein R^{11} is such that
 $-CHR^{11}-$ is $-A^1-$ as stated above, with a thiol or

amine of the formula:-



wherein R^7 and A^2 have the meanings stated above and
wherein R^{10} is hydrogen or methyl; or

5 (c) the reaction of a compound of the formula:-

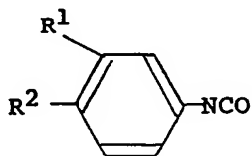


wherein R^1 , R^2 and R^6 have the meanings stated
above, with an organometallic compound of the formula -



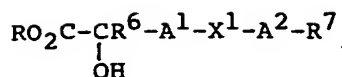
wherein A^1 , A^2 , R^7 and X^1 have the meanings
stated above and M is a metal radical; or

(d) the reaction of an isocyanate of the formula:-



15 wherein R^1 and R^2 have the meanings stated above, with
an ester of the formula:-

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wherein R^6 , R^7 , X^1 , A^1 and A^2 have the meanings stated above, and wherein R is alkyl of up to 6 carbon atoms, followed by hydrolysis of the

5 oxazolidinedione thus obtained;

whereafter

(i) an acylanilide wherein R^5 is

hydroxy may be prepared by the hydrolysis of the

corresponding acylanilide wherein R^5 is acyloxy; or

10 (ii) an acylanilide wherein X^1 is sulphinyl

or sulphonyl may be prepared by the oxidation of the

corresponding acylanilide wherein X^1 is sulphur; or

(iii) a racemic acylanilide may be separated into its optical isomers by forming an ester of the hydroxy group

15 R^5 with an optically-active acid, separating the

diastereoisomeric esters thus obtained, and then

hydrolysing each separate ester to the alcohol.

3. A process for the manufacture of an acylanilide of the formula stated in claim 1 wherein R^1 is

20 trifluoromethyl, R^2 is cyano or nitro, R^3 and R^4 are

both hydrogen, R^5 is hydroxy, R^6 is methyl, A^1 is

methylene, X^1 is sulphur, sulphinyl or sulphonyl, A^2

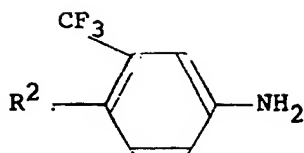
is a direct link and R^7 is alkyl of up to 3 carbon

atoms; or is allyl, phenyl, p-fluorophenyl, thiazol-2-yl,

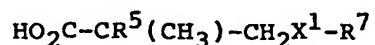
25 4-methylthiazol-2-yl, 5-methyl-1,3,4-thiadiazol-2-yl or 2-

pyridyl, characterised by:-

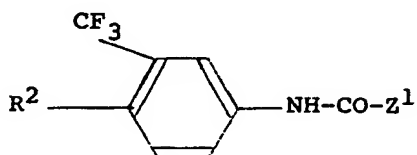
(a) the reaction of an amine of the formula:-



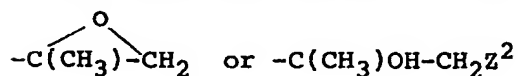
wherein R² has the meaning
stated above, with an acid of the formula:-



- 5 wherein R⁷ and X¹ have the meanings
stated above and R⁵ is hydroxy or acyloxy as stated in
claim 1, or with a reactive derivative of said acid; or
(b) for the manufacture of an acylanilide wherein
X¹ is sulphur, the reaction of an epoxide of the
10 formula:-



wherein R² has the meaning
stated above and wherein Z¹ has the formula

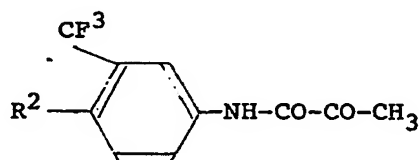


- 15 wherein Z² is a displaceable group, with a thiol of the
formula:-

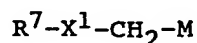


wherein R^7 has the meaning stated above; or
(c) reaction of a compound of the formula:-

5



wherein R^2 has the meaning stated above, with an
organometallic compound of the formula -



10 wherein R^7 and X^1 have the meanings stated above and M
is a metal radical;

Whereafter

- (i) an acylanilide wherein R^5 is hydroxy may be prepared by the hydrolysis of the corresponding acylanilide wherein R^5 is acyloxy; or
- 15 (ii) an acylanilide wherein X^1 is sulphonyl or sulphonyl may be prepared by the oxidation of the corresponding acylanilide wherein X^1 is sulphur; or
- (iii) a racemic acylanilide may be separated into its optical isomers by forming an ester of the hydroxy group R^5 with an optically-active acid, separating the
- 20 diastereoisomeric esters thus obtained, and then hydrolysing each separate ester to the alcohol.

4. A process as claimed in claim 1, 2 or 3 wherein in the starting materials R^1 is trifluoromethyl, R^2 is cyano, R^3 and R^4 are both hydrogen, R^5 is hydroxy or

acyloxy, R⁶ is methyl, A¹ is methylene, X¹ is
sulphur or sulphonyl, A² is a direct link and R⁷ is p-
fluorophenyl, whereafter if R⁵ is acyloxy the compound
is hydrolysed to the corresponding compound wherein R⁵
5 is hydroxy, and if X¹ is sulphur the compound is
oxidised to the corresponding compound wherein X¹ is
sulphonyl.

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BLANCHER

AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE
General Authorisation No. 97



European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

0100172

Application number

EP 83 30 3998

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl. 7)
Y	FR-A-2 142 803 (SCHERICO) * Claims *	1,6-10	C 07 C 149/23 C 07 C 149/41 C 07 C 103/375 C 07 C 103/50
Y	US-A-3 133 119 (E.J. NIKAWITZ) * Column 1 *	1,7-10	C 07 C 121/78 C 07 C 147/107 C 07 C 147/14 C 07 D 213/70 C 07 D 247/02
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			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl. 7)
			C 07 C 103/00 C 07 C 121/00 C 07 C 147/00 C 07 C 149/00 C 07 D 213/00 C 07 D 233/00 C 07 D 239/00 C 07 D 283/00 C 07 D 285/00 C 07 D 333/00 A 61 K 31/00
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 31-10-1983	Examiner MOREAU J.M.
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	